

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

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O 061230Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9093

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 7502

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR AMBASSADOR SAXBE FROM SCHNEIDER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT:

1. LIFE HAS CONTINUED TO BE VERY QUIET IN DELHI AND THE ONLY THING OF REAL INTEREST HAS BEEN INDIAN BEHAVIOR FOLLOWING YOUR TALK WITH CHAVAN. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN WHAT INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND CONGRESS PARTY LEADERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE US; RATHER, VIRTUALLY NO COMMENT ABOUT THE US IS BEING MADE. MRS. GANDHI HAS BEEN GIVING TEN TO TWELVE SPEECHES A DAY IN GUJARAT AND SO FAR WE HAVE SEEN ONLY ONE INDIRECT REFERENCE TO THE US. SHE HAS EVEN REVISED HER COMMENT ABOUT THE THREAT FROM THE SEA TO IMPLY THAT IT COMES FROM PAKISTAN.

2. PRIVATELY WE HEAR FROM SEVERAL MINISTRIES THAT OFFICIAL WORD HAS BEEN HANDED DOWN THAT THE GOI IS TO GET BACK TO WORK ON THE SUBCOMMISSIONS; WE GATHER THEY ARE THINKING OF A CHAVAN VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER. SO FAR I HAVE DONE LITTLE BUT LISTEN TO THESE THINGS; I AM HERE IF THEY WANT ME. THEY HAVEN'T ASKED.

3. WE HAVE A PROBLEM ABOUT TITLE I PL480 FOOD FOR INDIA NEXT YEAR. INDIA ALMOST CERTAINLY PLANS TO SEND SOME AID TO NORTH VIETNAM AND THE DEPARTMENT HAS TOLD US THAT IT WILL BE INELIGIBLE FOR TITLE I FOOD IF IT DOES. WASHINGTON HAS IN MIND
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CUTTING INDIA FROM THE PL480 LIST IF THE INDIANS CONFIRM THEIR

INTENTION. IN FACT, SENATOR HUMPHREY HAS ALREADY TABLED LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD DROP THE BAN AND THE INDIANS ARE NOT LIKELY TO ASK FOR FOOD AID FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. I DON'T SEE WHY WE HAVE TO FACE THE ISSUE RIGHT NOW; IF WE DO STRIKE INDIA FROM THE LIST, THAT FACT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LEAK. I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT THIS IF THE INDIANS WEREN'T MAKING AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES I RECOMMEND THAT YOU TRY TO KEEP INDIA ON THE LIST AND DEFER THE AID TO NORTH VIETNAM ISSUE UNTIL LATER.

4. WE ARE SENDING YOU SEPARATELY A STATUS REPORT ON THE REPLIES TO YOUR INVITATIONS TO SPEAKERS. YOU MAY WANT TO FOLLOW UP WITH SOME OF THEM.

5. WE RECEIVED FROM JOHN C. KEENEY, ACTING ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, A TELEGRAM INFORMING YOU OF A LAWSUIT FILED IN THE US DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STYLED CALVIN F. SMITH V. WILLIAM SAXBE ET AL. YOU SHOULD TELEPHONE KEENEY ABOUTTHIS. THE CASE IS AN INDIVIDUAL AND CLASS ACTION ARISING OUT OF THE ARREST OF THE PLAINTIFF ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1974, AND THE SUBSEQUENT CANCELLATION OF PLAINTIFF'S FURLOUGH RIGHTS FROM THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS. COPIES OF A SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED THROUGH THE POUCH. THE CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER IN THE DISTRICT COURT IS 75-0265. THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S LEGAL DIVISION (L/M) TRANSMITTED THIS MATERIAL TO YOU.

6. THERE HAS BEEN NOTHING WHATSOEVER THAT HAS REQUIRED YOUR PRESENCE HERE. IN FACT, LIFE HAS BEEN VERY QUIET. WARM REGARDS.

SCHNEIDER

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